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WEARDALE  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH  
for the  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964

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No. 6 Health Area,  
"Springfield"  
WILLINGTON  
Crook, Co. Durham.

Tel: Willington 375.



P U B L I C     H E A L T H     O F F I C E R S

O F     T H E     C O U N C I L

\*\*\*\*\*

Medical Officer of Health - G. A. MACGREGOR, M.D., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector - R. G. SUDDICK, Cert.R.S.I.Lond.

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WEARDALE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1964

To the Chairman and Members of the Weardale Rural District Council,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Medical Report for the Weardale Area for the year 1964.

The general state of health of the area has remained satisfactory.

It has been a noteworthy feature of the vital statistics for the past ten years that the death rate has exceeded the birth rate and this fact has been repeated during 1964.

Of the infectious diseases only measles has been mildly prevalent while there have been no cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or the enteric group of diseases notified during the year. The number of new cases of tuberculosis, viz., 3, were detected at a comparatively early stage, treated in hospital and no death occurred. The necessary contact tracing and preventive measures were rapidly undertaken.

No outbreaks of milk or water borne disease were observed during the year. However, the examination of the milk supply from one farm revealed *Brucella Abortus* on two occasions but rapid steps were taken to remove the infected cattle and the situation is now satisfactory.

During the year, numerous visits were made to poor property, overcrowding, insanitary conditions, and the aged, as part of the general public health coverage of your area and any relevant matters arising were reported from time to time.

Attendances at the Child Welfare Clinics at Stanhope and Wolsingham were moderate, approximately 23 - 25 children per session at Stanhope and about 15 - 18 at Wolsingham.

Immunisations against poliomyelitis, diphtheria and tetanus and B.C.G. work against tuberculosis were actively carried out either at the clinics, or at the schools and the combined results obtained from the efforts of local general practitioners and the public health department indicate a very satisfactory response indeed, among the people of Weardale.

Your Public Health Officer has appended his section of the report.

In all it has been a satisfactory year from the public health aspect and I am grateful to all members of the Council and staff for their unfailing co-operation and courtesy throughout 1964.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. A. MACGREGOR.

(3)





# CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate - Mid Year)	...	...	8,130
Area (In Acres)	...	...	99,652
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	3,175
Rateable Value	...	...	£250,918
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	£975

## VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	102	57	45
Illegitimate	3	3	-
	<u>105</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>45</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	12.91
General Birth Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	18.4

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	1	1	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
Rate per 1,000 (live and still)	...	...	13.04

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>DEATHS</u>			
	127	77	50
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	15.62
Death Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	11.3

## DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	Nil

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	2	2	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>2.</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>

THE  
FEDERAL  
BUREAU OF  
INVESTIGATION  
OF THE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

FROM: SAC, NEW YORK

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]



# DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births	...	...	19.05
Infantile Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	...	...	20.00
Infantile Mortality Rate 1,000 live births - legitimate	...	...	19.42
Infantile Mortality Rate 1,000 live births - illegitimate	...	...	-
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	-
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	...	...	-
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	9.42
Deaths from Cancer	...	...	12
Deaths from Measles	...	...	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea	...	...	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	-

## TABLE OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS

Year	Death Rate	Infantile death Rate Under 1 year	Birth Rate
1959	14.24	27.77	12.20
1960	18.88	26.30	12.62
1961	16.88	41.66	14.37
1962	16.54	8.55	14.34
1963	16.44	11.24	10.01
1964	15.62	19.05	12.91



# CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1964

Cause of Death	Sex	Total	Under 4 weeks		Age in Years								
		all ages	4 weeks	1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
9. Other Infective and Parasitis Diseases	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung, Bronchus	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	M	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	8
	F	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	13
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	M	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	5	10	10
	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	6
20. Other Heart Disease	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21. Other Circulatory Disease	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
	F	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22. Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	M	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System	M	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
32. Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	M	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	4
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34. All other Accidents	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
35. Suicide	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total of all Causes	M	77	-	2	1	1	1	-	5	3	12	23	31
	F	50	-	1	-	2	2	-	1	2	3	12	28



INFECTIOUS DISEASES

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases Admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Dysentery	-	-	-
Measles	40	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	6
Erysipelas	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	3	3	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-

The following table shows the number of cases notified and deaths recorded from Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever during the past six years:-

Year	DIPHTHERIA		SCARLET FEVER	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1959	-	-	4	-
1960	-	-	-	-
1961	-	-	2	-
1962	-	-	-	-
1963	-	-	2	-
1964	-	-	1	-





# NOTIFIED DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1964

The following table gives the incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year:-

Disease	Under 1 yr	1 - 2 yrs	3 - 4 yrs	5 - 9 yrs	10-14 yrs	15-24 yrs	25-44 yrs	45-64 yrs	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Measles	-	4	9	26	1	-	-	-	-	40
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

## TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

## COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS FOR RECENT YEARS

Year	New Cases						Deaths					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1959	→	-	-	2	-	2	2	-	2	-	-	-
1960	2	3	5	1	1	2	2	-	2	-	-	-
1961	5	-	5	-	-	-	2	1	3	-	-	-
1962	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1963	2	2	4	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
1964	1	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-





# A N N U A L            R E P O R T

of

## P U B L I C            H E A L T H            I N S P E C T O R

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1964

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### WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the Weardale Rural District is within the area of supply of the Durham County Water Board.

The supplies were satisfactory and no complaints of shortage arose.

### SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Further work was carried out on sewerage and sewage schemes and apart from minor items, the new sewage works at Stanhope, Frosterley and Edmundbyers were completed.

Schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal for the Western Part of the District and new sewage works to serve Wolsingham and Thornley District were still under consideration.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

As the schemes for sewerage and sewage disposal progress, the position regarding the installation of water closets continues to improve and the number of dry closets, in the larger built up areas of Wolsingham, Frosterley and Stanhope, is very small indeed.

Property owners again took advantage of the Council's scheme, allowing a grant of half the cost up to maximum of £20, for water closet conversions. During the year grants were paid, involving fourteen properties, the total amount paid being £258. 3. 3d. Water closets were also installed under the Housing Improvement Grant Schemes.

The types of closets, in the whole of the district, at the end of the year were:-

Water Closets	-	2650
Ash Closets etc	-	450
Ashpit-privies	-	72



## PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection of refuse was carried out satisfactorily. The two Shelvoke & Drewry and the one Ford Thames refuse collecting vehicles being engaged solely on this work.

The estimated weight of refuse removed was 5,874 tons, the vehicles covering 19,098 miles.

Refuse is disposed of at the three tips at Lanehead Quarry, Stanhope, Brown's Houses Quarry, Frosterley and Harperley Bank Quarry.

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The whole time rodent operator was engaged on the disinfection of dwellings, business premises, farms, refuse tips, sewers and sewer fields. Of properties inspected, treatments (including re-treatments) were carried out on 260 dwellings, 10 business premises and farms and 48 other properties (refuse tips and sewer fields).

Cost of the work on business premises and farms was recovered on the basis of actual cost plus overhead expenses.

## SHOPS AND FOOD PREMISES

Routine inspections of the shops and food premises were carried out, the standard of these being generally satisfactory. Inspections were also carried out in connection with registration for the sale of ice cream and the making of sausages.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Inspections of the four registered private slaughter-houses in the district were carried out and these were found to be satisfactory.

During the year 1964 the following carcasses were inspected:-

Cattle	-	401
Sheep	-	1069
Pigs	-	82

The standard of animals slaughtered in the district was generally good, and only minor amounts of liver were condemned.

Tinned food in shops were condemned on 49 instances, and in each case the food was surrendered voluntarily.

During the typhoid epidemic in Aberdeen, acting on advice of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, all shops and catering establishments including schools, were visited to check stocks of tins of corned beef.





### SMOKE ABATEMENT

No action was necessary regarding smoke abatement. There are few industries in the district of the type associated with smoke nuisance.

### FACTORIES ACTS

Inspections were carried out under the Factories Acts, and minor defects were remedied in two instances, following informal action.

### OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

This Act came into force on 1st August, 1964, and registration of premises under that part of the Act enforceable by the District Council were duly effected. 12 offices and 14 retail shops (employing a total of 86 persons) were registered.

### TENTS, VANS ETC.

With the increase in the number of holiday caravan sites, further inspections were carried out under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, in connection with site licence requirements.

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The following is a summary of visits undertaken by the Department during the year:-

Housing (Public Health & Housing Acts)	218
Sanitary Conveniences	38
Drainage	56
Water Supply	4
Food Premises	186
Shops Act	58
Dairies	9
Slaughter Houses	24
Tents, Vans, etc	54
Factories & Workplaces	58
Insanitary ashpits and receptacles	45
Offensive accumulations	2
Prevention of Damage by Pests	68
Boarding Kennels	1

### HOUSING

No new houses were erected by the Council during the year. Negotiations were in progress for the development of the Bond Isle Site at Stanhope.

The improvement works to three houses at Church Lane, Wolsingham were completed by the Council's direct labour force.





HOUSING (continued)

One new private dwelling was completed at Edmundbyers and ~~nine~~ others (2 at Edmundbyers, 1 at Harperley, 1 at Wolsingham, 1 at Frosterley and 4 at Stanhope) were in course of erection.

Further owners took advantage of the schemes to improve properties and during the year 13 applications for the Standard Grant and 42 for the Discretionary Grant were approved. The total applications approved since the inception of the scheme is 394 Discretionary Grants and 61 Standard Grants.

I have the honour to be

Yours obediently

R. G. Suddick

Public Health Inspector  
& Surveyor

